

Market News

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Recycling Market Development Program

Road to Recycling Conference

The Road to Recycling Conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin, January 28-29, 1997. The conference will highlight the use of recycled materials in road and other construction projects. The conference will provide the results of extensive research into the use of a variety of materials, including glass cullet, flyash, asphalt shingles, scrap tires, recycled plastics, and more. Sponsors for the event include the Texas Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the Associated General Contractors of Texas, and the TNRCC. For registration information, call (512) 416-2562.

SPRA Seeks Financial Support in West Texas

In a cost-cutting move, the Southwest Public Recycling Association (SPRA) is temporarily closing its West Texas office. Headquartered in Tucson, AZ, SPRA provides cooperative marketing services in five southwestern states and West Texas. With financial assistance from TNRCC, an office was opened in Midland in 1995, to assist West Texas communities that are remote from recycling markets. Cooperative marketing allows small and rural communities to work together and effect economies of scale and access markets through cooperative contracts. The West Texas office, managed by Larry Shroyer, has been successful in marketing paper, plastics and glass; however, funding from grants and other sources has not been sufficient for the office to remain open.

SPRA will continue to provide marketing services to communities and other West Texas recyclers through its Tucson cooperative marketing office. "Several communities marketed materials through SPRA contracts prior to opening this office, and we do not anticipate any problems continuing to market recyclables from West Texas," said Gary Olson, SPRA Executive Director. "In a very short time Larry accomplished a lot for recycling in West Texas. Glass recycling, once thought of as hopeless, was turned around by setting up several rail-access points and shipping materials to out-of-state markets with a good return to West Texas recyclers," said Olson. In addition Olson said, "Larry worked with small and large recyclers—some well established and some just starting—to provide advice on recycling equipment, material specifications, buying recycled content products and

transportation to market. He is a resource that West Texas recycling efforts need."

SPRA will be sending information to the solid waste managers for the seven Councils of Governments in West Texas and to solid waste advisory boards and other West Texas officials to inform them about the benefits of working together through one organization to strengthen recycling for everyone. "Once we have re-established our funding base, Larry is going to be the first person we call to reopen our office," said Olson.

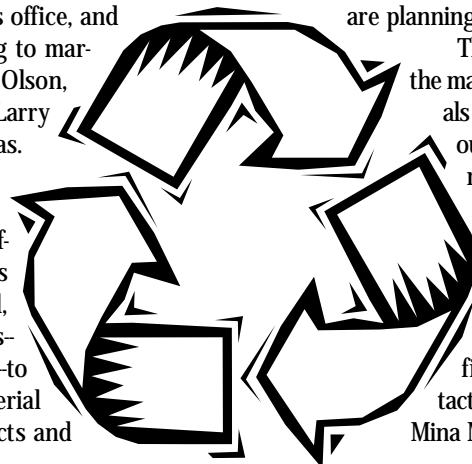
For information about joining SPRA and accessing services, contact Olson at (520) 791-4069.

Potential Recycling Markets

The TNRCC, in partnership with the Natural Resources Program of the Bureau of Business Research (BBR) at the University of Texas at Austin, is identifying current markets, and exploring potential markets for recycled materials among all manufacturers in the state. In the first phase of the year-long research project, the BBR incorporated questions on current and planned use of recycled materials into its annual survey of Texas manufacturers. This survey, which was sent to 26,663 companies, is used to produce the annual Directory of Texas Manufacturers.

Results of the survey will enable the TNRCC, the Councils of Governments, and other entities to target specific industry groups, or specific regions of the state as potential markets for recycled materials. Of the 16,690 manufacturers that responded to the survey, 2,301 said they use recycled materials in their manufacturing process, and 2,179 said they do not; however, 615 manufacturers who do not currently use recycled materials in their manufacturing say that they are planning to use them in the future.

The remaining phases of the project will estimate the manufacturing feedstocks for which recycled materials could be used as substitutes, and the non-hazardous manufacturing wastes that potentially can be recycled. When the project is complete in early 1997, database searches can be conducted, and the following information can be provided: firm name, address, phone number, name and title of purchasing agent, number of employees, amount of sales, and the SIC codes that describe the firm's products. For additional information, contact Clay Collins of TNRCC at (512) 239-6753, or Dr. Mina Mohammadioun of BBR at (512) 475-7812.



Spotlight on: Southern Crushed Concrete

Southern Crushed Concrete now operates seven sites in the Houston area to recycle old concrete from construction and demolition work into aggregate that can be used for road base and other new-construction applications. Since the start of operations in Houston in 1990, Southern Crushed Concrete estimates that it has kept more than 8 million tons of old concrete, asphalt, and reinforcing steel out of area landfills. Currently, Southern Crushed Concrete is recycling more than 1 million tons of material per year, and has more than 80 employees. Contact Rick Diffley/ Division Manager, Rob Cagle/Estimating Removals & Sales, or Chris McLean/Material Sales at (281) 987-8789, or Fax (281)987-8791.

ETC....with the closing of the **SPRA** West Texas office, **Larry Shroyer** is seeking other opportunities in the recycling industry. He can be reached in Midland at (915) 563-1488...**Rick Graves** manages **Panhandle Recycling Opportunities** in **Plainview**. In addition to operating a processing facility for recyclables collected in alley-side and drop-off programs, Graves has begun a vermi-composting operation for composting of manure and low-value paper from the recycling operation. For more information, contact Graves at (806) 296-9717...**Jackie Reed** is the Manager for **WesTex Waste** in **Odessa**. **WesTex** is the new owner of the **Time Machine**, a drop-off recycling center previously operated by Keep Odessa Beautiful. For more information, contact Reed at (915) 563-5060...**Green Guy Recycling** is back in business in **San Marcos** after the City Council approved a contract with Green Guy to run a drop-off center and collect recyclables from city government offices. In two years of operation, Green Guy owner Kyle Hahn estimates that the company has recycled more than 3,000 tons of material. For more information about Green Guy, contact Hahn at (512) 353-3266...The **Recycling Coalition of Texas (RCT)**, a statewide advocacy and professional recycling organization, is conducting a membership drive. For information about membership in RCT contact **Janice Brady** at (972) 625-0081...The **Texas Compost Summit** will be held in Austin on March 26-29, 1997. This first-ever event is being hosted by TNRCC and The Composting Council. For additional information, contact Scott McCoy at (512) 239-6774...**Thelin Recycling Co.**, began operations in **Fort Worth** earlier this year to recycle **asphalt shingles** into paving material. Owner **Jack Milner** reports that he is recycling about 8,000 cubic yards of shingles per month. For more information, contact Milner at (817) 481-6679...**Fort Howard Corp.** has announced that it will expand one of its tissue mills, perhaps the mill at **Muskogee, OK**, which is a major purchaser of **mixed-office paper** from Texas...Prices for November show little change from previous months. The next issue of **Market News** will feature price charts for 1996; however, don't expect any great revelations. **Paper grades** were "flat" for the year and the two most commonly recycled plastics, **PET** and **HDPE**, traded places from 1995 performance levels; PET suffered an extended fall in prices and HDPE enjoyed a steady increase throughout the year...

Texas Market Prices

(for the week of November 18, 1996)

Material		Processor Price	End-User Price
Aluminum	UBC (cans)	\$0.22 - 0.38/lb —	\$0.57/lb ↑
Glass	Flint	0 - 20/ton —	50 - 57/ton —
	Amber	0 - 15/ton —	40 - 59/ton —
	Green	0/ton —	15/ton —
Paper	OCC (cardboard)	10 - 50/ton —	60 - 75/ton —
	ONP (newspaper)	0 - 10/ton —	10 - 30/ton ↓
	White Ledger	30 - 60/ton —	100 - 150/ton —
	Mixed Paper	0 - 4/ton —	10 - 15/ton —
	Mixed Office Ledger	10 - 30/ton —	40 - 85/ton —
	Computer Print-out	60 - 120/ton —	200 - 220/ton —
Plastic	PET (mixed colors)	0 —	0.01 - 0.04/lb —
	HDPE (natural)	0 —	0.18/lb ↑
	HDPE (mixed colors)	0 —	0.06 - 0.09/lb —
Steel	Steel Cans	0 - 30/ton ↓	78/ton ↓

The prices listed above are compiled by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. TNRCC obtained pricing information from buyers within each category and developed a pricing range. "Processors" include dealers, brokers, scrap yards and collection centers; whereas, "end-users" include mills and plants. Processor prices are for delivered material in metropolitan areas of the state and do not reflect the value of any collection services. End-user prices, except for glass, are for baled material in truckload quantity, f.o.b. seller's dock. The difference between processor and end-user prices is indicative of the value added by separating, baling or otherwise preparing materials to meet end-market specifications. Actual prices paid by end-users will depend on quality, quantity and transportation requirements. Arrows indicate direction of change from previous month.

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Market News is produced by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program. For more information about items in this newsletter, contact the Market Development Team at 512/239-6750, Fax 512/239-6763, or at ccollins@tnrcc.state.tx.us.

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Market News Subscription Information

The most valuable tool for market development is good information. It's also the most cost effective. The TNRCC's Recycling Market Development Program publishes Market News, a free monthly newsletter dedicated to bringing you the latest and best information available on markets for recovered materials.

Each month, Market News features articles about specific materials, highlighting individual market success stories and keeping you abreast of market trends. The Recycling Market Development staff want this publication to be truly useful, so don't hesitate to call them at 512/239-6750 with your suggestions and items of interest.

If you would like to receive future copies of Market News, please complete this coupon and fax to **512/239-6763** or mail to:

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